

St Mary's School, Mosgiel Newsletter



Mission Statement—St Mary's is a Catholic School dedicated to the provision of the highest quality primary education with a special emphasis of Catholic values and attitudes.

Phone: 03 489-7716 Fax: 03 489-0991
E-mail: office@stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz
www.stmarys-mosgiel.school.nz

Term 1 Week 8

22nd March 2011

62 Church Street, Mosgiel, Dunedin 9024

Dear Parents, Caregivers and Friends of St Mary's School,

Last Wednesday I had the pleasure of working with Room Seven for the day. The setting wasn't in Room Seven but rather it was in the great outdoors. As a component of their education outside the classroom programme the Year Seven and Eight group had the great opportunity for a day's tramping, jet boat riding and rafting.

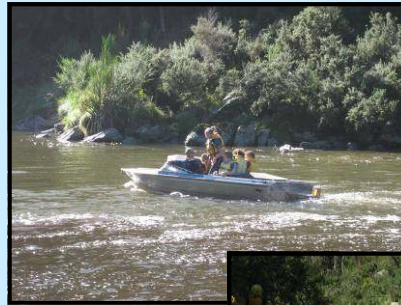
The goals of the day were based around team building but tied in well the key competency aspects of the National Curriculum: managing self, participating and contributing, relating to others and thinking. But the real challenge in all of these targets is that these things need to be done in a challenging or unknown setting. I have seldom been as proud of a group of young people as I was on this day. All challenges were accepted, all tasks completed and a genuine sense of comradeship developed.

Problem solving can be a purely theoretical task, but it does lose something when a problem is solved while seated at a desk. Most problems are identified, faced and solved in situ and that is what outdoor education brings.

A.J. Hackett once said "I like to scare myself at least once a day". Most of us would find this a little too challenging but growth is about facing challenges and overcoming them and that is what our senior school did on Wednesday. And I may be wrong but I think the group that arrived back at school was just a little taller and stood a little straighter than the group that left.

**Have a great week
Mike Brosnahan**

Room 7 Rafting Trip Last Week



Our Vision : Confident, reflective, risk-taking, lifelong learners in a Catholic School.

PTA News ...

PTA AGM

David Young was fantastic—thank goodness he spoke fast as he only had 40 minutes to talk. But we learnt a lot about Cyber Safety. At the AGM we had to sadly say good bye to Susan Ngatai and Sally McNeilly. This year we have a very strong P.T.A. with five new members. Welcome Simone Reynolds, Alison O'Neill, Ginny O'Neill, Steve Alexander and Travis Wilson. We look forward to a fun year. First PTA meeting will be next Tuesday 29th March 7.00pm, if anyone is interested in helping please come along.

Entertainment Books Are Back!

If you would like to get a jump start on your purchase of a book you can order one through the school now and get a free page of vouchers to use now! Contact Jacqui Dodson 489 1264 if you are interested.

Same price of \$50. Remember to ask friends and family members if they wish to purchase a book.

BBQ at Bunnings

On Sunday 27th March the PTA and parents from Room 7 are selling sausages to raise money for the senior camp, please support them if possible.

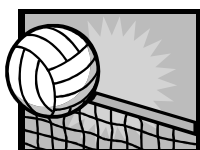
Altar Servers—Sunday 20th March

Brendan O'Neill, Mitchell Cumming.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child comes to school dressed in the **correct uniform**, including their footwear (**Black or Brown leather shoes**). Also please remember that for sporting purposes especially, the idea of a uniform is that everyone should be dressed the same—bright coloured shorts or a long sleeved top worn under a short sleeved top are not acceptable.

From our Uniform Policy: Sports Uniform
Shorts Navy Drill Shorts style 6937 available from Postie Plus. St Mary's School sports shirt is supplied, children are given a sports shirt for school sports activities, and these are to be returned at the end of the year.



A thought for the week...

"If it is peace you want, seek to change yourself, not other people.
It is easier to protect yourself with slippers than to carpet the whole earth.

-Anthony De Mello

Looking Ahead Term 1

March

25th Room 6 Assembly with Room 4 Item

April

1st - Teacher Only Day—school closed
8th Room 6 Assembly with Room 3 Item
10th Working Bee 11am—1pm
14th BOT Meeting 7.30pm
15th Easter Liturgy

Teacher Only Day Reminder

The Board of Trustees has given permission for the school to be closed on Friday 1st April to enable the staff to attend the **Catholic Schools' Gathering Day** in Gore. This day is held every three years (it was last held in 2008) and it enables all of the teachers from the Catholic Schools in our Diocese to come together for a special day of spiritual guidance and in-service training.

ICAS

Last chance to enter into these competitions, please let Mrs Baines, in Room 7 know asap if you are interested.

Winter Sports Information

If you are interested in your child playing a winter sport for St Mary's School we offer the following sports over winter:

Miniball for Yr 3 to Yr 6, this is held on a Monday for the Yr3/4 grades and Tuesday for Yr5/6 after school at Memorial Park Stadium. Cost about \$15

Basketball for Year 7/8, this is held at the Edgar Centre on a Monday after school. Cost is about \$50 as this includes the Edgar Centre entry fee.

Hockey for Yr 1 to Yr 8, this is held at Brooklands Park (opposite St Mary's School on Church St), every Saturday morning. Cost is about \$15.

Netball For Year 3 to Yr8, this is held at the Taieri College courts off Green Street, every Saturday morning. Cost is about \$15 per player.

More details about these sports will be available as it gets closer to the season starting.

Please indicate by next Thursday 31st March if you wish your child to play any of these sports, and if you are interested in coaching your child's team.

This way we can get our teams sorted according to availability of coaches and players.

Child's Name _____ DOB _____

Sport(s) I wish to play _____

I am available to coach a sports team **Yes / No**

Sport Type: _____

Signed by Parent _____